

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Pekka VALLITTU et al.

Serial Number: 10/720,483

Group Art Unit: 1772

Filed: November 25, 2003

Examiner: Bumgarner, Melba N.

For: DENTAL OR MEDICAL DEVICE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 31, 2006

Sir:

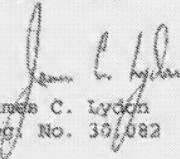
In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed May 10, 2006, applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 11-16, with traverse.

The Restriction Requirement should be withdrawn because search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden to the Examiner. All three Groups are method inventions classified in the same Class 433. (Groups I and II are alternatively classified together in Class 623, subclass 901). Thorough search and examination of the invention of Group I (a method of manufacturing a dental or medical device) will

necessarily include search of the invention of Group II (a method of manufacturing a dental or medical device) and the invention of Group III (a method of manufacturing a finished dental appliance from the dental device). See MPEP § 803, which requires search and examination of admittedly independent or distinct inventions where, as here, search and examination of all the claims can be made without serious burden. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement are earnestly requested.

It is not believed that any fee is required for entry and consideration of this Response. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 5G-1258 in the amount of any such required fee.

Respectfully submitted,



James C. Lydon  
Reg. No. 30,082

Atty. Docket No.: STICK-001-A  
100 Daingerfield Road  
Suite 100  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
Telephone: (703) 838-0445  
Facsimile: (703) 838-0447